

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An isolated chemoattractant protein capable of attracting eosinophils and of inducing eosinophil accumulation and/or activation in vitro and in vivo consisting of or comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 40% homology with the amino acid sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. (Original) A chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1, having at least 40% homology with the amino acid sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 2.

3. (Original) A chemcattractant protein as claimed in claim 1, consisting of or comprising an amino acid sequence as set out in SEQ ID NO: 1. or SEQ ID NO: 2.

4. (Currently Amended) A chemoattractant protein capable of attracting eosinophils and of inducing eosinophil accumulation and/or activation in vitro and in vivo, which is a polypeptide or peptide fragment of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~.

5. (Original) A process for the production of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1, which comprises obtaining bronchoalveolar lavage fluid or an inflammatory exudate from a human or a non-human animal challenged with a provoking stimulus, and isolating a fraction that demonstrates eosinophil chemcattractant activity in vitro and in vivo.

6. (Original) A process for the production of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1, which comprises culturing in vitro macrophages, lymphocytes, neutrophils, mast cells, airway epithelial cells, connective tissue cells, vascular endothelial cells or eosinophils obtained from a human or a non-human animal, and isolating from the cells or from the cell culture fluid a fraction that demonstrates eosinophil chemoattractant activity in vitro and in vivo.

7. (Currently Amended) A chemoattractant protein as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4,~~ claim 1 obtained by chemical synthesis or by recombinant DNA technology.

8. (Currently Amended) An agent that inhibits or otherwise hinders the production, release or action of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4,~~ claim 1 the agent being other than RANTES.

9. (Currently Amended) An agent as claimed in claim 8, which is a receptor for ~~a~~the chemoattractant protein as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4,~~ claim 1, an antagonist for ~~a~~the chemoattractant protein as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ at a receptor for that protein, or an agent that inhibits ~~an~~the agonist that binds to or activates a receptor for ~~a~~the chemoattractant protein as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~.

10. (Original) An agent as claimed in claim 9, which is a receptor for the chemoattractant protein.

11. (Currently Amended) An agent as claimed in claim 9, wherein ~~a~~ the receptor antagonist or ~~an~~ the agonist inhibitor is a polypeptide in which the sequence of a the full-length naturally occurring chemoattractant protein ~~as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4~~ ~~to 4~~ has been modified by amino acid substitution, or is a polypeptide or peptide fragment comprising part of the amino acid sequence of ~~a~~ the naturally-occurring chemoattractant protein ~~as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4~~ and retaining the capability of attracting eosinophils and of inducing eosinophil accumulation and/or activation in vitro and in vivo, or is a polypeptide or peptide fragment comprising part of the amino acid sequence of ~~a~~ the naturally-occurring chemoattractant protein, ~~as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4~~, which sequence has been modified by amino acid substitution.

12. (Original) An agent as claimed in claim 9, wherein a receptor antagonist is a chemotactic cytokine that binds to the same receptor as does the chemoattractant protein.

13. (Currently Amended) An agent as claimed in claim 8, which is an antibody against ~~a~~ the chemoattractant protein ~~compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4~~.

14. (Currently Amended) An agent as claimed in claim 8, ~~any one of claims 8 to 13~~, for use as a medicament.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for making a pharmaceutical preparation for treating asthma or another inflammatory disease comprising admixing ~~Use of an agent~~ that inhibits or otherwise hinders the production, release or action of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of asthma or another inflammatory disease.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical preparation which comprises, as active ingredient, an agent as claimed in claim 8, ~~any one of claims 8 to 13~~, in admixture or conjunction with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of treating asthma and other inflammatory diseases, comprising the administration of an effective amount of an agent that inhibits or otherwise hinders the production, release or action of a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of treating asthma and other inflammatory diseases, comprising the administration of an effective amount of an agent that inhibits or otherwise hinders the production, release or action of a chemoattractant protein as

~~claimed in claim 9 A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the agent is as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 14.~~

19. (Currently Amended) An immunoassay for an antigen or other assay for one member of a specific binding pair, characterised in that the antigen or member of the specific binding pair is a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4.~~

20. (Currently Amended) An immunoassay for an antibody, characterised in that the antibody is an antibody that forms a complex with a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4.~~

21. (Currently Amended) A method of testing a compound for an inhibitory effect on the activity of a chemoattractant cytokine in vitro, characterised in that the chemcattractant cytokine is a chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4.~~

22. (Original) A method of determining the ability of a substance to induce eosinophil accumulation and/or activation in vivo, which comprises administering the substance to a test animal previously treated with labelled eosinophils and subsequently determining the number of labelled eosinophils at a skin site.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the ability of a substance to inhibit eosinophil accumulation and/or activation induced in vivo by chemoattractant protein as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein to an animal pretreated with labelled eosinophils is administered and the chemoattractant protein and the number of labelled eosinophils at a skin site are subsequently determined.